Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 21346 072007Z

64
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

NIC-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 EB-11 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00

STR-08 SCI-06 RSR-01 /142 W
---------- 028325
R 071730Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2386
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 21346

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, UR, FR
SUBJECT: RECENT FRANCO-SOVIET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

1. DEVELOPING US-SOVIET COOPERATION IN MANY AREAS HAS CREATED WITHIN GOF A FEELING OF MALAISE. CERTAIN RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN FRANCO-SOVIET ECONOMIC RELATIONS MIGHT BE INTERPRETED WITH THIS IN MIND.

2. JULY 9-11 GRANDE COMMISSION MEETING IN MOSCOW, ATTENDED BY FRENCH FINANCE MINISTER GISCARD D'ESTAING, PROVIDED FORUM FOR REPEATED VOWS OF FRANCO-SOVIET ECONOMIC COOPERATION. SOVIET EMBOFF CLAIMED SOVIETS PREFERRED CONCLUDE GRANDE COMMISSION MEETING WITH A SIMPLE COMMUNIQUE WHILE FRENCH WANTED IT PHRASED AS FORMAL BILATERAL AGREEMENT (CONTRARY TO ORDINARY ROUTINE IN WHICH SOVIETS SEEK FROMAL ACCORDS). SOVIETS REPORTEDLY ACQUIESCED IN ORDER REASSURE FRENCH THAT THEY CONTINUE BE IMPORTANT TRADING PARTNER AND ARE NOT BEING OVERLOOKED DURING PERIOD OF RAPIDLY DEVELOPING US-SOVIET ECONOMICRELATIONS. SAME EMBOFF STATED THAT DURING BREZHNEV 25-27 JUNE STOPOVER IN PARIS FRENCH REQUESTED DEFINITE DATES FOR LATE JULY SOVIET RP BY FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER MICHEL JOBERT. HE ALLEGED SOVIETS ALSO AGREED TO THIS TO CATER TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 21346 072007Z

FRENCH VANITIES AND RESULTANT SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL AGREEMENT

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

SIGNED BY JOBERT ON JULY 27WAS LARGELY CONTRIVED AND MEANINGLESS. FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL STATED, WITH LITTLE CONVICTION, THAT ACCORDS NOTED ABOVE WERE MORE CONCRETE IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC PROPOSALS THAN TEN-YEAR ECONOMIC COOPERATION ACCORD SIGNED IN PARIS IN 1971BY BREZHNEV AND POMPIDOU AND WERE INTENDED TO IMPLEMENT CERTAIN BROAD OBJECTIVES AGREED UPON DURING BREZHNEV 1971 VISIT. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT BOTH 1971 AND 1973 AGREEMENTS DID LITTLE MORE THAN STATE ASPIRATIONS AND THAT DEFINITE PROJECTSAND CONTRACTS ARE DEPENDENT ON ABILITY FRENCH FIRMS LOCATE PROFITABLE OPPORTUNITIES. THIS LACKADAISICAL FRENCH INTERPRETATION OF AGREEMENTS TENDS STRENGTHEN FEELING THAT MAIN PURPOSE FOR AGREEMENTS WAS TO REASSURE FRENCH THAT SOVIET DESIRE FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION IS UNDIMINISHED.

3. TO DATE WE HAVE VERY SKETCHY FRENCH REACTION TO OSTENSIBLE COMECON OVERTURE TO EEC. INITIAL PRESS REACTION WAS TO EXAGGERATE IMPORTANCE OF THIS OVERTURE BUT ATTENTION TO TOPIC HAS NOW DROPPD OFF. FRENCH MINISRY OF FINANCE OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF THAT THERE IS SOME SENTIMENT WITHIN EEC FOR CONTACTS WITH COMECON BUT THE FRENCH DON'T SHARE THIS VIEW. THEY PREFER, AS IN PAST, THAT THE EEC DEAL WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ON BILATERAL BASIS. A FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL TENDED TO FEEL THAT EEC NEGOTIATIONS WITH COMECON WOULD STRENGTHEN THAT ORGANIZATION AS A VEHICLE FOR SOVIET CONTROL OVER COMECON STATES. HE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT A DUTCH COLLEAGUE HELD THE OPPOSITE VIEW THAT EEC-COMECON RELATIONSHIP WOULD HELP EAST EUROPEANS WEAKEN SOVIET DOMINATION OVER LONG TERM. FRENCH OFFICIAL STATED THAT THIS VIEW MERITED SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. FRENCH AVERSION TO BLOC DIPLOMACY IS WELL KNOWN YET IT CONCEIVABLE THEY WOULD AGREE TO EEC-COMECON NEGOTIATIONS IF THEY BELIEVED SOVIET HEGEMONY OVER OTHER MEMBER STATES WOULD BE THEREBY WEAKENED. CONSENSUS OF BOTH FRENCH OFFICIALS WAS THAT AS PRESENTLY STRUCTURED EEC AND COMECON ARE INCOMPATIBLE SYSTEMS AND ANY SIGNIFICANT COOPERA-TION IS FAR IN THE FUTURE.

4. COMMENT: WE HAVE NOTED THAT OUR SOVIET CONTACTS SOMETIMES REFER TO FRENCH IN VERY DISPARAGING OR CONDESCENDING MANNER AND IMPLY THAT US-SOVIET RELATIONS ARE OF PRIME IMPORTANCE
CONFIDENTIAL

WHILE FRENCH-SOVIET RELATIONS ARE OF PERIPHERAL IMPORTANCE. THIS ATTITUDE HAS PROBABLY ALSO BEEN NOTED BY FRENCH AND HAS ACCENTUATED FEELING THAT THEIR PRIVILEGED POSITION WITH SOVIETS IS THREATENED BY EXPANDING US-SOVIET COOPERATION.
GDS
STONE

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARIS21346
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS STONE
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730853/aaaabmzo.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <19-Nov-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RECENT FRANCO-SOVIET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: EGEN, UR, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005